

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 27)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 12x + 54 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(12) \pm \sqrt{(12)^2 - 4(1)(54)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(12) \pm \sqrt{144 - 216}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-72}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm 6\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = -6 \pm 3\sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-2 - 9i$ and $6 + 4i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(-2 - 9i) \cdot (6 + 4i)$$

$$-12 - 8i - 54i - 36i^2$$

$$-12 - 8i - 54i + 36$$

$$-12 + 36 - 8i - 54i$$

$$24 - 62i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 36x + 72$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 6)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} & 1 & -2 & -36 & 72 \\ -6 & & -6 & 48 & -72 \\ \hline & 1 & -8 & 12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 6)(x^2 - 8x + 12)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 6)(x - 6)(x - 2)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 5)^2 \cdot (x + 1) \cdot (x - 4) \cdot (x - 7)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

